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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/386,556	08/31/1999	BRUCE A. YOUNG	450.262US1	1537

24333 7590 01/24/2003

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EXAMINER

ELAMIN, ABDELMONIEM I

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2182

DATE MAILED: 01/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/386,556

Applicant(s)

YOUNG et al

Examiner

Abdelmoniem Elamin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 14, 2002
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-22, and 26-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-22, and 26-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Aug 31, 1999 is/are a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

This communication is in Applicant's response to amendment filed on Nov 14, 2002 (claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-22 and 26-32 are pending in this application).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-22 and 26-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Antos, US. Pat. No. 5,790,201 in view of Nanba, US. Pat. No. 6,297,870 (*cited in a previous office action*).

3. Claims 1, 4, 8-12, 15, 19-20, 26-27 and 31-32, Antos teaches a peripheral communications protocol hub (*a corresponding method and a computer program*) [*keyboard 14 includes an integral hub for electrically coupling a mouse 30 and a joystick 32, see Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 27-29*], comprising

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an input device [*keyboard 14 of Fig. 1*];

a wireless interface coupled to the input device [*signal transmitter 34 of Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 46-54*] and operable to communicate with a host computer [*CPU 24 of Fig. 1*];

a hub integrated the input device [*keyboard 14 includes an integral hub for electrically coupling a mouse 30 and a joystick 32, see Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 27-29*].

Antos fails to teach a plurality of communications protocol connectors on the input device.

Nanba teaches a plurality of communications protocol connectors on an input device [*keyboard k of Fig. 5, col. 6, lines 49-67, col. 7, lines 1-2*].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of Antos to have a plurality of communications protocol connectors on the input device, because of its convenience, expandability and support for data exchange between a host computer and a wide range of simultaneously accessible peripherals.

4. Claims 2, 13 and 17, Antos teaches the input device is a keyboard [*see keyboard 14 of Fig. 1*].

5. Claims 5, 14 and 29, Antos teaches the input device is a cursor control [*keyboard¹ 14 of Fig. 1*].

¹ Keyboards have keys dedicated to cursor control, e.g. the right, left, up and down arrow keys.

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6. Claims 7, 16 and 30, Antos teaches the communications protocol connectors comprises a wireless connection to at least one wireless peripheral [*keyboard 14 provided with IR transmitter to enable a user to control TV 18 of Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 34-45*].

7. Claim 18, Antos teaches a remote control [*keyboard 14 of Fig. 1*], comprising;
an alphanumeric keypad [*inherently, keyboards have a keypad*] connectable to a host device [*CPU 24 of Fig. 1*] by a wireless connection [*col. 3, lines 39-42*];

a communication protocol hub [*keyboard 14 includes an integral hub for electrically coupling a mouse 30 and a joystick 32, see Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 27-29*].

8. Claims 21-22 and 28, Nanba teaches placing a USB packet in a communication sent to the main computer [*inherently, all transactions on the USB are performed as packets within a transaction*].

Both Antos and Nanba fail to teach sending a single signal to the main computer.

however, both the concept and the advantages of multiplexing signals from a plurality of devices onto a single signal for wireless transmission is old and well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Antos to include sending a single signal to the main computer, because it saves bandwidth along the transmission path.

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Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-22 and 26-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdelmoniem I. Elamin whose telephone number is (703) 305-3804. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin, can be reached at (703)308-3301.

Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239 (Official)

(703) 746-7240 (Non-Official/Draft)

Application/Control Number: 09/386,556

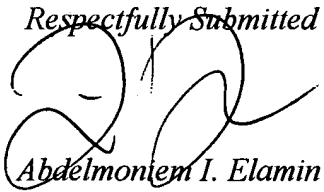
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(703) 746-7238 (After-final)

*Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA,
Forth Floor (receptionist).*

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abdelmontem I. Elamin'. The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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August 9, 2002